

WINTER 1999

The Journal of the Cat Protection Society of NSW

Cat Affairs





THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF NSW

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THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

It has been another busy summer for your Society with demand for our services continuing at a high level. Our staff deserve special thanks for the great effort they have put in. Because of this continuing demand we have decided to purchase another van to help reduce the time it takes to respond to requests for help. At the same time, the search continues for suitable premises for our new cattery so that we can try to increase the number of cats and kittens we can place in new homes.

Many thanks also to all of you who took the time to complete the questionnaire sent out with the last issue of *Cat Affairs*. The information we received from you is most informative and useful. Most gratifying are the clear messages of support received for the activities of the Society. For all who volunteered their time to help at the Op Shop, in the office, or in many other ways, a special thank you.

Another point brought home to me by the survey is that a considerable number of our members live in country areas of NSW or have moved interstate. While it is very difficult for them to be actively involved in our activities, they can still play a very important part in their local communities. Some are directly involved in 'hands on' cat welfare work but there are other ways of helping as well. A letter to the local newspaper, or raising an animal welfare issue with a local councillor or Member of Parliament is an important role that each of us can play, regardless of where we live.

A sad point raised by one of our respondents was the prospect of moving into a home where she could not take her cats, which were very much a part of her family. This must be a real issue for many people, and while increasing numbers of homes now seem to be accepting pets, I would be interested to hear from you as to whether you think it is an area where we should be pushing for changes to the law to allow greater access for pets to retirement villages and the like. The same would apply to finding 'pet friendly' rental accommodation for all tenants.

In the last *Cat Affairs*, I mentioned the Companion Animals Act and the new Companion Animals Advisory Board that will advise the Minister for Local Government on implementation of the Act. I have the honour of representing CPS on that Board and there are many issues that we have to address to ensure that the Act works smoothly and effectively. An education program to inform everyone of their responsibilities will be an integral part of promoting the Act.

Doubtless, there will be some problems as the Act comes into full force on July 1 of this year. However, the Board aims to see that these are minimal. I hope that common sense and good will prevail during this time and that it will be the start of a period when unwanted cats and kittens will become increasingly scarce as all sectors of our community accept their responsibilities for our feline friends.

Keith Edwards



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VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS NEEDED FOR OPPORTUNITY SHOP

COVER: Sleeping the sleep of the innocent: photographer: Ben Evans-Fong

CENTREFOLD: I'm adult, I'm beautiful, I'm personality. Adopt me!!, Photo F Kaukerei

BACK COVER: Pinot and kit; CPS saved them both. Photographer: Kathryn Williams
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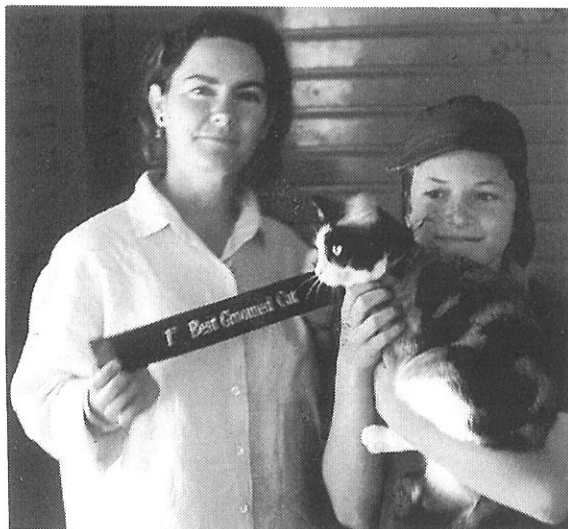
The film crew from 'Totally Wild' came to the CPS office in Enmore Road to do a story on raising orphan kittens. Our animal welfare officer, Jenny Saba, is a veteran on the tricks and trials of raising babies and she was able to show them all they needed to know. This segment was screened in late February, 1999.

EDUCATING THE YOUNGER SET

On December 4, 1998, our office assistant, Judy Levitt, was invited to represent the Cat Protection Society at the annual Pet Show Day held at Cronulla South Public School. The entire school eagerly looks forward to this event and the Pet Show Day helps reinforce to the children the importance of responsibly caring for their family pet.

There were guest speakers from the Police Dog Squad, the Society for the Blind, and a member of Council who demonstrated what to do in the event of a dog attack. Judith's role at the Pet Show was to talk to children about responsible cat and kitten care, particularly over the school holidays, and about ownership responsibilities. Judith assisted judging the animals that were brought by their proud owners. Judging the cat section was fun, although difficult, as they were each beautiful in their own special ways.

Overall the day was a great success for everyone involved, and the chance to represent the CPS in such a positive way was an opportunity not to be missed. We are all looking forward to next year's pet show, and we thank Cronulla South community for involving the Cat Protection Society in such a wonderful day.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS NOW DUE

Your membership dollars help in so many ways

We do so much more for cats, above and beyond the episodes in the articles on this page

HELP US CONTINUE TO HELP CATS

Please fill in the enclosed membership form and rejoin today.

We thank you for caring as much as we do

WE CAN'T SAVE THEM ALL

But we do ease their suffering

We often receive crisis calls from people who find stray cats with injuries. Our welfare staff are often asked to attend urgent jobs which can be kilometres away from where they had planned to be that day and when they arrive they can find some of the injuries horrific. One such call came early in the new year.

A woman in Condell Park phoned because she saw a cat caught in what looked like a rabbit trap in her front yard. She sounded pretty shaken. She had rung the RSPCA but their inspectors were all too far away, so they referred her to us. Luckily for the cat, we were able to help very soon after. Sandy went to the rescue, managed to open the jaws of the trap, extricate the cat and rush the badly injured animal to the Concord Animal Hospital. The cat was euthanased due to the severity of its injuries.

We wanted to have a prosecution in this case since ownership of these jawed traps is illegal. However, the trapped cat had dragged itself, and the trap, to the yard of the woman who phoned so we could not determine who actually owned the trap. At least now it is in responsible hands and can never again inflict such senseless and cruel agony. Thank you, Sandy, for being so capable and thanks to the Concord Animal Hospital for their prompt attention.





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VERSE
I am sending you some verse. Also hoping
you get nearer to the cat sanctuary.
Madame Kuvani
Life member and mother of 8 furry purries

**A TIMELY INTERVENTION -
Thanks AWL**

A young man asked for our help. He had come from Canberra to a job which fell through and he had been looking unsuccessfully for another and had no money and nowhere to stay. He and his 2 year old cat had been living in his car for a fortnight. He needed someone to take her in for some weeks. When we get our own cattery this is the sort of thing we will be able to do. We rang through to our friends at Animal Welfare League and they were prepared, if he surrendered the cat to them, to try to keep it for 2-3 weeks when he could have it back. It had been a feral kitten but was now his best, and possibly his only friend. Thanks AWL!!

PLEASE HELP....if you can...

In December, my black and white spay cat disappeared. As Patcholi wasn't a wanderer and was wearing a collar and bell, was very well fed and a pretty cat, I assume she was taken. I can't imagine anything else as the pain is enough to bear without being pessimistic. I feel angry about someone stealing a person's pet. This cat had a traumatic time before coming to live with me, and now someone has put her through more trauma.

She could have been a diabetic and need daily insulin injections as one of my other cats is. But the medical history of a stolen animal is not thought of when they are selfishly taken. I have done the usual things, contacting vets and the RSPCA and advertising. She may have settled happily in a new home but can the person who stole her be the right owner? They certainly don't have the animal's interest at heart. I have another ad going in the next local paper, the 4th one. The other day I heard of a cat returning after 12 months so here's hoping. But I have become very suspicious of people. The not knowing is the worst. Even though I have a large family of cats, each one is individual and is missed when something happens to them. Someone reading this letter may know of someone who has acquired a black and white cat from Katoomba. Any information would be appreciated. Please send it to me care of the CPS.

P Williams, Katoomba

LITTLE BOY

'Little Boy' was selected from the RSPCA by my brother John and his wife, Kathryn. He was a mature cat who had been abandoned by his previous owners. 'Little Boy' is a Himalayan, a very affectionate cat who rarely wanders outside the garden and is very much a home loving cat.

John and Kathryn work weekdays, except for this particular Friday when Kathryn was home packing for a holiday in Tasmania. Suddenly there was a knock at the door - some neighbourhood children informing Kathryn that 'Little Boy' had been hit by a car.

Kathryn found 'Little Boy' in a pool of blood in the road and she assumed him to be dead until she felt a faint heart beat. He looked such a mess that she took him to a vet to be put to sleep. Halfway through the examination, as the vet stated he had a slight chance, 'Little Boy' regained consciousness and held out his paw to her.

This was a good enough sign to decide to do all that was possible to save "Little Boy". 'Little Boy's jaw was fractured in several places, which made breathing difficult. He had to wait until the following day to be assessed and his jaw was wired as the swelling had gone down. The vet informed us that this was a crucial time. He needed to drink and take nourishment or he would not survive. John and Kathryn had to leave on their holiday so my other brother visited the vets to give Little Boy cuddles whenever possible.

Finally, eight days later, a very sad looking cat was released. This was also the day his parents arrived home. What a shock to see him. His head was completely shaved, bruised, eyes swollen, his jaw swollen so much he still couldn't shut his mouth, and a wire protruding from under his tongue. Little Boy had to be syringe fed pureed food for a couple of weeks. Later he had to have a second operation to amputate the tip of his tail which had a crush fracture that impaired the blood supply.

The road to recovery was long, but Little Boy is his usual happy self again, even though the wires still remain in place and his jaw is crooked.

Most cats are not so fortunate when they are hit by a car and it is good to know that there are a few lucky ones who survive to tell the tale (or tail!!). (photo page 17)
Debby Messham

COLUMN 8 FAME for CONCORD ANIMAL HOSPITAL

You know you've made it when your name appears in Column 8 of the Sydney Morning Herald. Aug 6, 1998....

Last month there was a sign offering cat desexing for \$50 outside the office of a Concord vet. A reader wonders if the promotion was a success. It's now been replaced with a sign "Kittens for Sale".

RESCUED HEARTS

Kathleen Parsons

Taking care of rescued cats
is something I do best
I know because I've done it
and I've surely passed the test.
The cats I've soothed, the food I've fed,
the vacuuming I've done
and all to watch a frightened soul
sit dreaming in the sun.

My own cats I've neglected
but I tell them every day
that I love and cherish each of them
though a new cat's come to stay.
I know they understand this,
for in their eyes I see
the love that I have given them
come shining back to me.

Some people think I'm crazy
some others think I'm great
but very few can understand
what really is at stake.
If I can love and help a cat
to find a better way
my own life is much richer
I look forward to the day.
so now you know my secret
it's there for all to see
the love I give, the life I save
I do it all for me.



TAILS

Sue Matysek

At this time of year if you listen very closely, you will hear a collective sigh of relief echoing around the portals of the Cat Protection Society. The breeding season is all but over and we are getting the tail-end (sorry!) of the last litters being surrendered to us. Yes, it was another hectic breeding season with many mother cats and kittens surrendered to us over this time. And some of these mothers were not much more than kittens themselves. Being a responsible welfare agency, we categorically insist that if people surrender litters, the mother cat is desexed at the same time to prevent future unwanted litters.

The breeding season was very busy this year, both in the office with the amount of calls we were daily receiving, and in the field, where our animal welfare officers were madly dashing from one end of Sydney to the other, picking up surrendered cats and kittens. We have received so many calls for help over the past few months that we are in the process of buying an extra van so that more staff are available for emergency calls. These are calls similar to the urgent job that appears on page 3 in this issue, where animals are injured and need to be attended to immediately.

It has been a hectic season for our carers also. Our carer, Frances, has had a steady stream of very young orphaned kittens over the whole summer. She has successfully raised them to an age where they can be desexed and adopted. It's wonderful knowing that we are able to save more kittens that come to us too young to be adopted immediately. Having volunteer carers means we can foster them at a moments notice.

A controversy erupted in late January over a proposal by the RSPCA that cats which are brought into their shelters with no identification, will only be kept for a minimum of 3 days before a decision is made as to their future. The new Act recommends a minimum of 7 days. This only highlights the whole issue of appropriate identification for your beloved friend.

We recommend permanent identification such as a microchip, along with a collar and tag (if tolerated by your cat). This means that if your cat does go missing and is taken to a vet or welfare organisation, you will be reunited very easily with your pet. The collar and tag is important in situations where someone on the street spots your cat and can easily and quickly identify it and let you know immediately where it is.

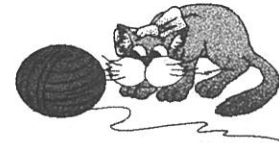
We also enjoyed media attention of a different kind. The crew from Totally Wild visited our office in Enmore to do a story on raising orphan kittens. Animal Welfare Officer, Jenny Saba, was able to demonstrate how she raised orphan kittens in the past and just how difficult it can be!

We have some really gorgeous adult cats waiting for homes at the moment. One such was reported to us as a stray hiding in a hole in a wall in a car park behind a strip of shops in Kingsford. He would only cautiously poke his head out when food was placed in front of him. He would gulp it down in one hit and then quickly retreat to his refuge. The person who reported him to us said that he was painfully thin and could we come out immediately.

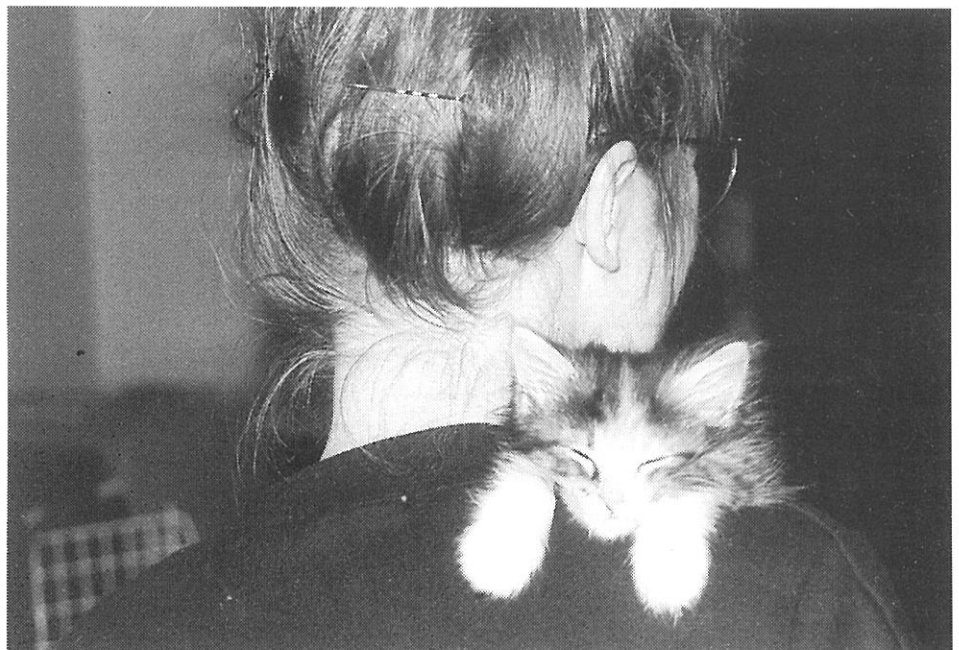
Judith, our administration assistant, picked him up that day. She said that he was tame and wearing an extremely tight collar - so he had probably been lost since he was half grown. We discovered he was only one year old but his first year of life had obviously been an eventful one. Every day we watched him blossom in confidence and trust, as well as weight!! This friendly, trusting boy stayed with us only two weeks before he found a home with someone who had come intending to buy a kitten - but fell in love with this big grey neuter instead!!

Thank you for your great response to both the raffle and the member's survey that so many of you enthusiastically responded to in the December journal. All the prize winners have been notified and the list is on page 20. If your name isn't there, don't worry, there will be more opportunities in the future. Thanks to all the members and volunteers for your fantastic support in buying and selling tickets on our behalf. We wouldn't be able to run such successful raffles without the ongoing support you have shown.

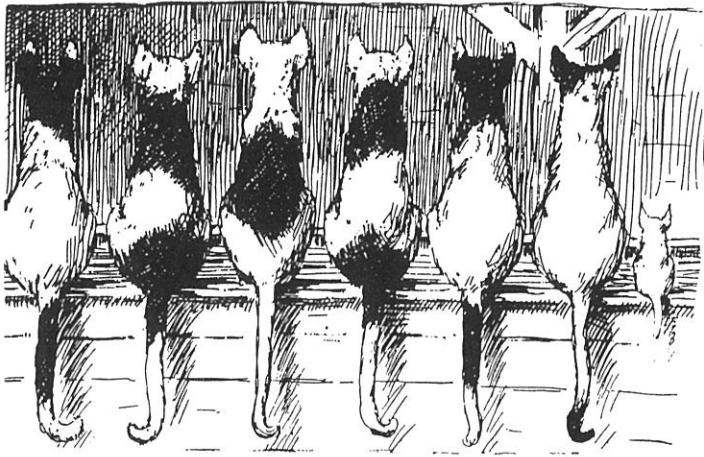
I hope you all have a lot of fun with our new Kids Page, edited by Judith Levitt. If you have any junior members in your family or in friend's families, please pass it on! It's crammed full of cat puzzles and cat facts that will surprise and amaze you.



Frances, our kitten carer, and one of her young charges.



Cat Tails



8 LIVES LEFT

A tortoiseshell cat was spotted sitting in the middle of a cross road in Concord. She didn't look particularly happy and even when Sara and her family beeped the horn at her she didn't budge. Concerned, they got out of the car and lifted her out of harm's way by putting her under a tree at the side of the road. An hour later they were returning home and were surprised to see her still sitting where they had left her. Obviously this was not a happy cat. They started door knocking in the area with no result so after an hour took her home with them, concerned that she didn't have much shelter where she was. She still didn't look well so they took her to Concord Animal Hospital and after some anguish because they couldn't keep her, surrendered her to the Cat Protection Society, knowing that at least she would get expert veterinary care.

The following day a young family arrived at Concord Animal Hospital wanting to have a look at some CPS kittens since their old cat had recently wandered away and looked unlikely to return. The vet nurse showed them out the back and left them to the choosing game. They had only been there a minute when the children started crying out 'Dallas, Dallas', and she rushed back, thinking they had found a kitten that looked exactly like their beloved pet. Instead they had found their missing tortoiseshell cat who had been surrendered only the day before.

Dallas was microchipped before she left Concord and now has returned to her overjoyed family. Because she now has lifetime identification, even if she strays again she will be able to be reunited with her family, saving untold anguish to all parties.



"He really needs a bath but the tag on his collar says to dry clean only."

Glen Fitzpatrick of Balmoral got the best present of her life for her 70th birthday. Willie, Mrs Fitzpatrick's 5 year old Burmese cross cat, had been missing after escaping near her vet clinic. But at 4 am, four weeks after his disappearance, he returned, much to the delight of his owner. "I had taken him to the vet to be microchipped - and he broke through the basket and ran off.

After placing ads in newspapers, Mrs Fitzpatrick spend most of the month walking the streets looking for Willie. "I never gave up hope and put his kitty litter and basket out every night - I missed him terribly." Last Monday the sensor lights around the house came on - I thought it was just a bird or possum but then I heard a meow."

A call to North Sydney garbage collectors, who often come across strays, proved a little discomfoting. "I described him to them and they had one like him but this one was as flat as a board." Luckily Willie was not flat but on a long detour from the Mosman Veterinary Clinic in Canrobert street to Mrs Fitzpatrick's place near Balmoral Beach. It is amazing when you consider that Willie travelled through all that traffic from Spit Junction and Mosman.

Mrs Fitzpatrick met Willie when she took her dog to the vet. The cat put his paw out of the cage and started playing with the dog. She had to have him. Since making his reappearance, Willie has been spending his time in luxury at home, being thoroughly spoiled by a besotted owner thrilled to have him safely home.

AND THEN 48 LIVES LEFT

Late in the work day of the CPS, a distressed lady rang to say she had been walking her dog in Caringbah and walking through a small garden she was approached by 6 friendly very young kits. She fed them some unsuitable food, which they devoured, and then she hastened to a phone to ring us.

None of our welfare officers were available in that area so late in the day but it was unthinkable to leave those babes overnight - so friendly and trusting and so hungry. Fortunately Nita Harvey, our Treasurer, who lives in that area, knew exactly where they must be; just near Hardwarehouse. So I rang Hardwarehouse and asked Mary, at the switch, if they had any cat lovers on the staff. She didn't know so I asked for The Boss. I think he was astonished when I asked that he arrange for someone to pick these mites up and take them to a local vet, but being the gentleman he is, it was arranged that if I could get a vet to take them in, he would get someone to find them and take them.

Accommodation was quickly arranged with the Caringbah Veterinary Hospital and by the time I rang back, The Boss said the girls were just going out with boxes to pick up the kits. I waited as patiently as I could for a few minutes and then rang back to ask Mary how the operation was going. She was obviously happy to tell me that all six had been picked up - they were so friendly - AND they all had homes!!

Poor Mary, I had to ring her again to ask The Boss' name, Ron Hazelton, because, of course, we are going to write and thank him and we are putting Hardwarehouse on our complimentary journal list. If only all our calls for help could finish up so well.

Penny Ferguson

One Saturday in July, an ad appeared in the Illawarra Mercury below a photograph of a tabby cat. It read something like this: "Beautiful one-eyed Jackie, 5 yr old tabby, needs a loving home. Owners going overseas. (With a Kiama district phone number).

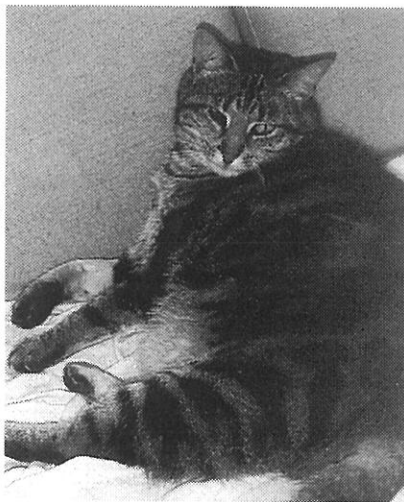
The ad and photo appeared on two more Saturdays; it must have cost Jackie's owners a small fortune. At the time, I had a dog and cat, and was negotiating for the purchase of another home which would need months of renovation, and I hesitated to adopt Jackie and uproot her twice within a short time. A friend advised, 'don't worry that the cat is five and only has one eye, if anyone wants to adopt her it will be a genuine cat lover - not someone on a whim.'

I purchased the property and the renovations started. I was to move in early in October. Then I saw a similarly worded ad, without a photo, and with a different phone number. It was highly unlikely there were two 5 yr old, one-eyed cats named Jackie wanting loving homes. I guessed someone had adopted Jackie, there was a clash of personalities, and Jackie had to go.

So beautiful, 5 yr old, one-eyed Jackie came to live with me. I don't know that anyone other than her original owners or me would consider Jackie beautiful. Sleek and fat, bossy and demanding, yes! She does actually have two eyes, but there is no sight in the right one. This doesn't prevent her from jumping on the verandah rail or a bench in the laundry where she is fed. If she considers the dog is taking liberties, she spits and throws a punch. Despite the fact that my other cat, Eta, is older (10) and here first, Jackie soon made it clear that she considered herself highest in the pecking order and she had the bulk to prove it.

I didn't really believe the story from her temporary owner. I think it might have had more to do with the bossiness and the size of the poos more than going to Tasmania; but it all turned out for the best. I couldn't resist sending them a Christmas card on Jackie's behalf saying, "I'm glad you got rid of me - I like it better here!" So here she is with me, shedding hair along with the rest of us, and we'll all spend our declining years together.

If I outlive the pets and can't manage the smaller garden here, I might have to consider a move to the retirement village nearby where their policy about pets is 'a fish in a bowl or a bird in a cage'. Perhaps that is sound management. You can't have animals shedding hair all over a brand new retirement village carpet, affecting any resale value. That organisation hasn't yet heard about pets in therapy! I hope they do before I need their services.

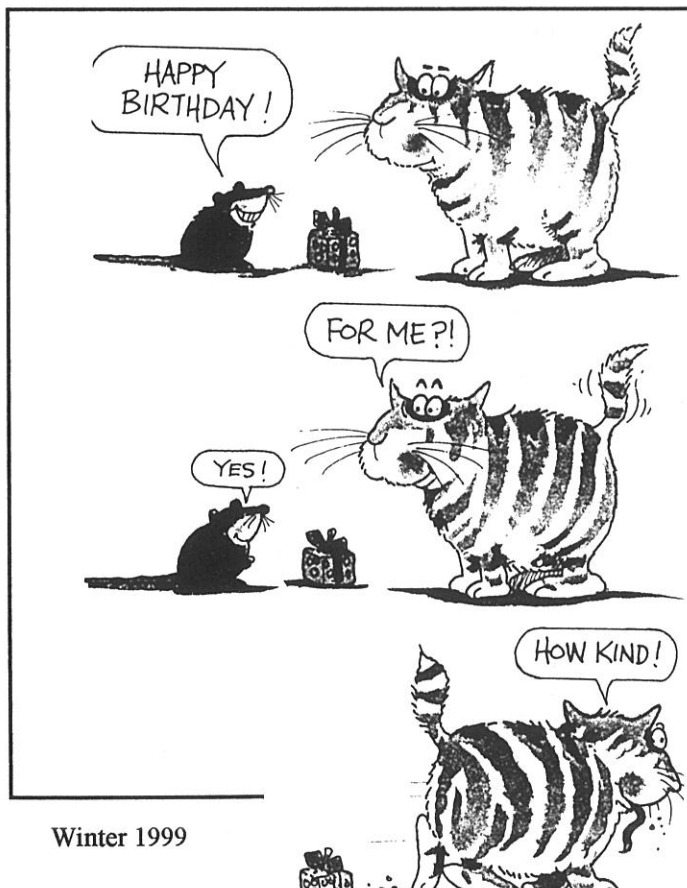


Lee Wright

There is no such thing in my house as being first between the clean sheets. It is my right – but it is never my privilege. Where some cats have an ear tuned to hear a can opener or a microwave – one of mine has her sense of smell turned to the scent of sun drenched sheets. I can guarantee a small, black, warm and furry will quickly be settled into the folds, enjoying the weekly benefits of fresh linen in the laundry basket.

But no matter where she was, she is ALWAYS there, on the bed, as I start the process of making the bed. Despite her 7+ years she is full of pounce and play, and is, of late, adding a new dimension to the sport by chewing the Sheridan in her attempts to become fully interactive in bed making. The teeth I discourage, both on the sheet and me. She is not vicious ... she just gets a wee bit carried away with the sport. But soft words and gentle stroking quickly eases her momentary over-enthusiasm and we get back to work with me trying to get the corners properly positioned and she doing her utmost to make the job as hard as possible ... but never tedious. She pounces, she plays, she attacks the creases, she skitters across the sheet, she poses and postures on the bed in ever changing attitudes of 'cute'.

I always sense an air of disappointment in her when the last pillow is dressed and the job done. Maybe this too-short fun is why she has started turning her paws to the preceding job of stripping the bed. Where once I used to be able to flick the sheets off very quickly, now I have a helper racing back and forth, slowing the process with the weight of her body and the cuteness of her actions, riding the sheet off the edge until she plops onto the floor before flying to the mattress again to 'help' with the next bit. This considerably lengthens the time for this prosaic chore but her assistance does take it from boring to the realms of fantasy. How can anyone have so much fun stripping and making a bed???? I don't know, it doesn't seem right. But we both do.



To Help Animals Help People

The Delta Society of Australia

Anita Goulding
Delta Australia Programmes Coordinator

The Delta Society of Australia has just celebrated its first birthday. Formerly an important portion of the NSW Animal Welfare League, it was created as an individual organisation in order to make real a simple philosophy – To Help Animals Help People. Since companion animals are those animals most easily accessed by most people in the community, Delta Society's programmes currently focus on helping companion animals – cats and dogs – help people.

Delta Australia runs four major programmes; "Pets as Visitors", "Pets in Residence and Pets at Home", "Prevent A Bite" and "The Delta Canine Good Citizen Course". Currently all of these programmes are run in NSW. The "Delta Canine Good Citizen Course" will be run in Victoria for the first time in 1999 and it is hoped that 1999 will also see the expansion of the remaining programmes into other states as well.

programmes with a canine focus. Prevent A Bite aims to educate children in 'dog safe' behaviour through presentations to primary school children, with a view to reducing the incidence of dog bites to children. This programme is expected to expand next year to encompass 'Safe Dog' and 'Dog Safe' education programmes for parents and intending parents.

Delta Canine Good Citizen Course is a year long course for anyone who wishes to teach dog training and solve canine behaviour problems using humane methods, either professionally or in a volunteer capacity. The Delta Canine Good Citizen Course aims to put good citizens on either end of the leash.

Delta's Pets as Visitors Programme involves training interested people and their pets, cats or dogs, to become Delta Pets as Visitors Teams. Pets as Visitors Teams visit the residents of nursing homes, aged care and other health facilities. Delta Australia is routinely approached by Diversional Therapists and other institutional staff who feel the lives of residents they care for would become more enriched as the result of cats and dogs visiting. Many residents have left pets behind and are thrilled to once again be able to pat a dog or nurse a cat. Others regain interest in life and find a new reason to communicate once again as a result of visits from Delta Pets as Visitors Teams.

Delta Australia runs a two day Pets as Visitors Training Course for people interested in volunteering with their pets to become a Pets As Visitors Team. Day one of the training course covers skills and knowledge training for human volunteers including topics such as how to conduct visits, what to expect during visits, human and animal health and how to cope with specific situations. Day two focuses on skills training for cat and dog volunteers. Once training is complete, volunteers are given time to practise perfecting their skills and honing their knowledge before being evaluated for suitability for the programme. Pets undergo temperament and skills evaluation, while owners undergo skills and knowledge evaluation. On successfully completing evaluations, Pets as Visitors teams are paired with a local nursing home or other facility most suited to the team's ability. Delta offers on going support to all Pets as Visitors Teams.

The Pets in Residence and Pets at Home Programme involves careful selection, evaluation, training and placing of suitable cats and dogs as 'Pets for Life'. The residents of nursing homes and other health facilities, and individuals challenged by disability but living at home, may find the quality of their lives enhanced by a resident animal that lives in their facility or home with them. Delta Australia has placed two canine and two feline Pets in Residence. The dogs, Annie and Lady Scruffy, and the cats, Rosie and Licorice, all enjoy living in their own nursing home or aged care facility. Delta Australia has also placed Tish as a Delta Pet at Home. The story of how Tish and her owner, Juliette, found one another with Delta Australia's assistance is a perfect example of how the programme helps animals help people.

Around August 1998, Juliette Christopher approached Delta Australia and asked us to find her a companion pet. She thought a little dog might be the pet of choice but explained that the dog would have to meet her particular needs. Juliette had experienced a stroke at the age of twenty, leaving her mostly wheelchair bound with other physical challenges.

I met Juliette shortly after her initial inquiry and spent some time discussing her life style and general needs. She is extremely busy completing a Degree in Health Sciences at Sydney University, and in her role as volunteer Promotions Officer for Burwood Council's Community Access Programme. Juliette's physical limitations combined with her busy lifestyle indicated a dog was probably not the pet of choice. She simply did not have the time to meet a dog's needs. "What about a cat?", I asked her. "I love cats!", she replied.

Once we established that a cat was the right pet for Juliette, we had to decide what type of cat would make the perfect companion. We determined Juliette would require quite a lot from her new pet! The cat would have to have a short coat, as constant grooming was beyond Juliette. The cat would have to cope with Juliette being away from the house for up to eight hours a day most weekdays. A black cat was a must since Juliette prefers to wear black clothes but finds removal of animal hair from her clothing physically quite difficult. The cat had to have an impeccable and unflappable temperament and enjoy handling and being with people. Juliette finds picking up objects, including cats, a challenge most of the time. It was at about this time that Juliette declared she adored British Shorthairs. I wondered where I was going to find a black, shorthaired cat that would act like a Ragdoll, look like a British Shorthair and wouldn't mind being home alone during the day!

My search for Juliette's Pet at Home led me to Tish. Tish's owner was elderly and frail and no longer able to care for her. Tish had been surrendered to a veterinary clinic in the hope that a suitable home might be found for her. Tish was tiny, shorthaired and black, and reminded me a little of a British Shorthair. She thoroughly enjoyed being handled but was just as happy to sit quietly, enjoying her own company. Once she passed all of the appropriate temperament tests I began to feel that maybe I had found Juliette's cat.

On meeting, Tish and Juliette hit it off immediately. Tish walked into Juliette's house as if she had lived there all her life, immediately making herself at home on Juliette's bed. Over the following weeks I visited Tish and Juliette several times to ensure all was well. During that time I showed Juliette how to train Tish to come when called, to jump onto a table to have her walking harness put on, and to sit still for grooming.

Only the other day Juliette told me what a difference Tish has made to her life. She said she feels much more safe and secure now that Tish shares her house and that Tish has become a real friend and loved companion. Tish is constantly by Juliette's side, in the house or garden, and drapes herself across Juliette's shoulders during the many hours she spends working at her computer completing university assignments and study. She has also been known to jump onto the keyboard and demand to be fed if she thinks Juliette has been working for too long! Most of all, Juliette felt Tish supplied her with unconditional love, something we could all do with a little more of.

If you are interested in becoming a Delta Society Supporter or are interested in taking part in any Delta Australia Programs, we would be pleased to hear from you.

Please contact us by phoning (02) 9252 0657.

LICORICE, the first 'Pet In Residence'

Licorice, an 18 month old tabby, was chosen by Delta and The Rotary Clubs of Turrumurra and Ku-Ring-Gai to provide animal companionship for aged people at the Peninsula Nursing Home. Sheila McAulay, Recreational Activities Officer at the Home said the 'Pets in Residence' program has brought immediate results, Licorice's arrival has had a very positive impact on the residents.



DELTA SOCIETY

Helping Animals Help People

There's no doubt that the warmth of a loving pet can be rewarding for the human spirit. Now a growing body of research suggests that animals can also be good for our mental and physical health.

Benefits have been identified (and reported in leading scientific journals) in the control of hypertension, the rehabilitation of patients who have suffered heart attacks and strokes and in therapy for child abuse victims, physical disabilities and neurological disorders.

Delta Society Australia Ltd, a non-profit organisation committed to helping people improve their health and well being through positive interaction with animals, was formed in Australia in May 1997. It is an independent national organisation with important international connections, including affiliation with Delta Society (USA) and membership of the International Association of Human-Animal International Organisations.

Through these international contacts the Society has access to a wealth of resources, experience, programs, training material and scientific research which is helping us to develop 'gold standard' programs adapted to meet Australian needs.

These programs and projects are funded through commercial sponsorship, grants, private donations, 'in kind' contributions, sale of publications and endorsed products and course fees.

The Society is managed through the National Secretariat by caring professionals with expertise in human health administration and animal care and training and supervised by a Board of Directors.

HOLISTIC MEDICINE

and your CAT

Kathy Cornack BVSc (Hons), MAgrSc, IVAS Cert, Reiki I
Newtown Natural Therapies for Animals

All of us get sick from time to time, and so do our cats and other pets. The frequency of illness and the types of conditions which affect a cat's health vary with the individual. This is the same for people and other pets. Some of us are born constitutionally strong, and others not so strong. Some individuals will have a bout of a disease and then be forever fine, while for others, their lives are a continual cycle of illness and recovery, and then the same, or another illness. Some individuals are afflicted with a variety of seemingly unrelated conditions which can come and go.



Some animals can eat whatever they fancy with no ill effects, while others may be allergic to a range of food substances. The climate, too, can affect health and well being. Some cats feel the heat, or the cold, or may get aches and pains in damp weather. Health is also influenced by the environment in which we live: the stresses of overcrowding, or absences of loved ones. We all know cats can fret when their human goes away, or if a new human or other animal is introduced into the household.

It is this broader picture of health and dis-ease that I have come to know, and be interested in during my 13 years as a veterinarian. I was classically trained in western medicine, like all my professional colleagues, and graduated in Brisbane with my shiny new degree in 1985. Being young and naive, I thought that I now had the knowledge to fix any and all woes that my animal friends would present. The passage of time slowly but surely wears the new off us all, and showed me that there was much that I did not fully understand within the framework of conventional medicine.

I didn't really look elsewhere for answers, but somehow I was presented with opportunities to learn about new modalities of treatment, and ways of looking at the body and illnesses which would change me forever.

My first lesson came in the form of acupuncture and traditional

Chinese medicine. It was at a vet conference in 1993, and there was nothing inspiring on the program this particular afternoon. I thought I would look in on the lecture on cattle acupuncture, just for fun. So began my awakening! I was so intrigued that I enrolled to do a vet acupuncture accreditation course, which I completed in 1995. Traditional Chinese medicine gave me the answers to so many questions I had. I learned about patterns of disease and constitutions, and the influence of the external environment on our animal's bodies. Suddenly here was a framework that was broader than anything I had experienced before.

While doing the acupuncture course I met other vets from all over Australia. Some were doing the most amazing things, and so my education and growth has continued. Now I dabble in Reiki and flower essences and herbal medicine, and will probably learn homeopathy one day. All these treatment modalities are termed "Holistic Medicine" and I am a founding member of the Australian Association of Holistic Veterinarians. Holistic medicine best describes my world view about how it is best to treat cats and other animals, and ourselves!! Holistic medicine means taking EVERYTHING into account that may affect the individual's body, mind and spirit. We then treat with modalities we feel are most appropriate, and this can, and most certainly would often include traditional western medicine. Sometimes the best treatment IS surgery, or pharmaceutical medication. A holistic practitioner will consider the WHOLE animal - not just the dis-ease state in isolation when treating an animal.

I see that holistic medicine has a definite role to play in cases where traditional western medicine is limited, and these tend to be the kind of cases I see. Cases such as cancer therapy, chronic skin and arthritic conditions, chronic cat flu, allergies and the like. Of course, a holistic approach is very important for maintaining health and vitality at any time. The thing to remember with natural therapies is that, on the whole, they are very gentle and subtle, and can take awhile to exert their effects. As a holistic practitioner, it is important that I 'do no harm'!. Just because a medicine is natural does not necessarily mean it is safe, especially in cats. It is important to check the safety of all medicines and diets before using them in treating your cat.

There was an excellent article on acupuncture in a recent edition of Cat Affairs by my friend and colleague, Pam Short. As for acupuncture, not all animals and not all conditions are suitable for

treatment with certain forms of alternative or natural medicine. Treatment for any condition should always be undertaken once a proper diagnosis has been made. For this reason, I encourage you to seek out a suitably qualified veterinarian who has experience in natural medicine if you are interested in exploring this approach to treating illness in your cat. A list of suitably qualified vets is available from me, or through the Australian Veterinary Association.

A CASE STUDY: TIGGLES

Tiggles was a much loved, 12 year old tabby who had suffered with sun cancer on her nose for many years. Recently the cancer had become very aggressive, and was irradiated in January, July and October 1997. The tumour was growing faster and the periods of remission shorter. I first saw her in December, 1997, when the tumour was again large and her regular vet had recommended another dose of radiation therapy. Her owners were unwilling to put her through it again, as each time it made her ill, and seemed now to last for such a short time. They came to me to see what other options were available. Given the rapid growth of the tumour, it seemed unlikely she would live more than a month or two, even with radiation therapy.



I treated Tiggles several times with acupuncture (see photo: tiny acupuncture needles in her nose and her paws). I also put her on a natural diet, with lots of anti-oxidant vitamins and spirulina. We gave her herbs to help fight the cancer (essiac) which she took each day with her meals. I referred the owners to a homeopathic vet who prescribed drops for Tiggles. We treated both Tiggles and her owners with flower essence drops to deal with the psychic aspects of her disease, and to facilitate a peaceful separation.

Although Tiggles was losing weight, and the cancer had spread to her lymph nodes, she was bright and contented and curled up happily with her owners each evening. A week before her death she experienced some breathing problems as the tumour grew over her nostril. Tiggles slipped away peacefully, and of her own accord, in November, 1998, 11 months later. Although their grief was enormous, her owners were at peace once the end came. They were pleased Tiggles was at peace, and that they had extra time to enjoy her, and to prepare themselves for her passing.

KATHY CORNACK

Rear of Newtown Osteopathic Centre
2 Horden Street, Newtown. (019 646 986)

Cat Affairs is pleased to welcome Kathy as a regular columnist and Kathy will be featured in upcoming issues to give readers an insight into a wider facet of treating feline illness. Anyone wishing to contact Kathy regarding holistic treatment for their animals is encouraged to do so.

Pin-Stripe Yuppie Blue

Ross Hornshaw

Quite inadvertently, it should be said
I laid my Sunday trousers on the bed,
By Saville Row from Flanagans when new,
The latest style in pin-stripe yuppie-blue.

Concurrently a chill breeze from the west
Disturbed our Dolly in her leafy nest,
Deliberately thus she came inside
Where presently a spare bed she espied.

Contented cats, you know, will flex their paws,
And Dolly has the sharpest set of claws,
Nor is she loathe to use them 'marking time'
(An apt expression with a word to rhyme).

One cannot say she plucked the garment bare
But just a thread or two from here and there,
And while the pin-stripe trousers look forlorn,
They come in handy when I mow the lawn.



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*If I wanted to hear the pitter patter of little feet -
I'd buy shoes for my cat.*



Heavenly Cat

As I look back, I can recall

The simple moments, I remember them all.

The soft, quiet, gentle beat

That came from his little, delicate feet.

His golden face always bared a smile

That made this harsh world seem worthwhile.

His sweet, small cry seemed to say

Pet me forever and don't go away.

Some people say cats feel nothing at all

That they are dumb and their senses small.

But I have proof that cats are smart

For he shared with us all his big, kind heart.

With all these qualities I know he will make

One of the best angels that heaven will take.



Remembrance



BETTY ROGERS

A donation in memory of my very dear mother, Betty Rogers of Budgewoi, who passed away on 18 December, 1998. She was a wonderful supporter of all creatures great and small, especially cats.

She is sadly missed by her family - especially Sammy and her precious Annie. We miss you so much, Bib.

Margaret Rogers



LUCKY

In memory of our lovely boy, Lucky who was put to sleep on 27 November, 1998 at 16 years of age. He is also missed by his mate "Pipi".

Mr & Mrs Raynsford, Leichhardt

TWIGGY, BAM & ELSA

In memory of my lovely cats.
Sue Fleming, Wentworth Falls

TRIXIE, BLACKIE, TIMMY, JOEY AND WHISKY

In loving memory of my beloved cats, I am enclosing a donation for your cattery fund.
Mrs M Davies, Carlton

My Next Door Friend

Kathleen Fernandes©

We've grown so close
Bidly and I every morning
she appears she greets me
grooms herself stretches
observes the birds ignores the birds
as I wait on her demands
for cheese biscuits milk.

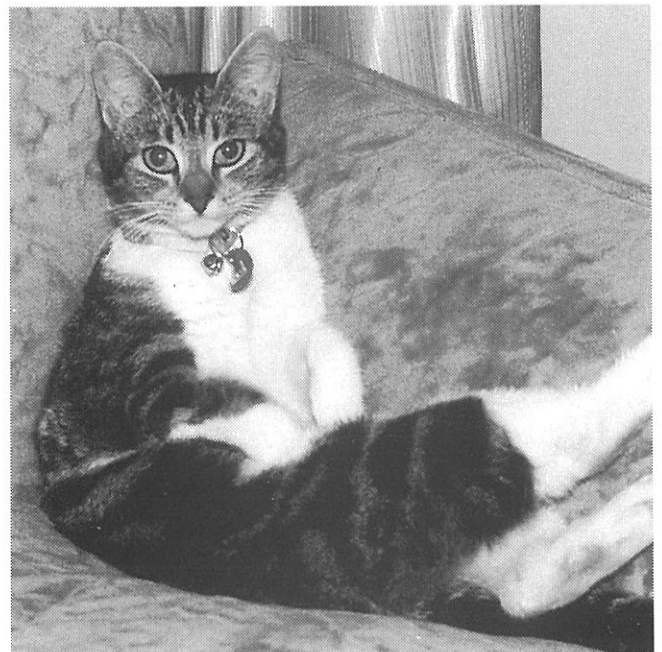
Then she purrs rubs her head
against my foot satisfied
she curls sleeps for hours
unperturbed. For years
she's been my companion
inspiration giver of wisdom.

Soon she will depart
travel far. I'm sure
she knows sometimes
she'll go quiet give a mournful cry

and look depressed
as she gazes around.

No longer shall I see her
stroke her dark fur
no longer will I hear her chatter
as she follows me about.

Soon no longer will Bidly be
my next-door friend.



Sweetie photographer: Derek Blew

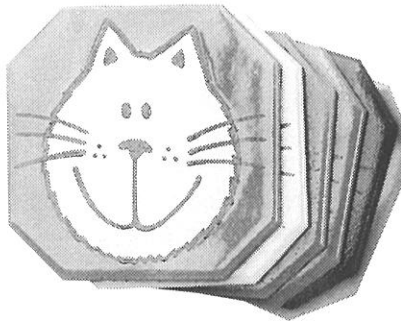
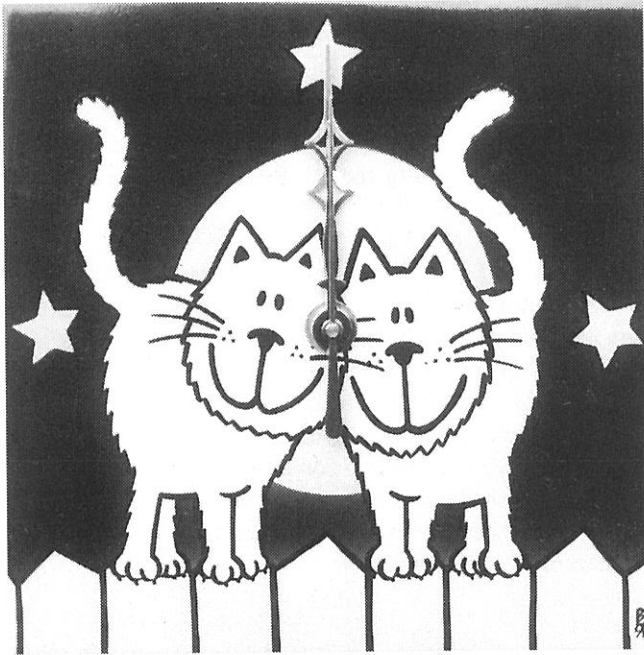


CERAMICS WITH A SENSE OF HUMOUR

Bronwyn Maurer - Feature artist.

Thank you for asking me to be a Feature Artist in Cat Affairs. These photos represent a small selection of my work. Each piece is individually handcrafted and no two pieces are identical.

I started painting on ceramics approximately 6 years ago as a hobby and enjoyed the process so much that I decided to make ceramics my full time career. The tiles I paint are made into a variety of items, including clocks, coasters, thermometers, trivets, magnets and house numbers.



The cat coasters are a set of 6 in a cardboard box which has a little cat tile on the lid. These are available in a multi-colour set of orchid, blue, green, red, yellow and orange or I'll paint a set of 6 in just one colour. They sell for \$36 a set. Thermometers are \$28 each and are more suited for indoors and measure 10 cm x 18 cm in a timber frame.

I sell my products through mail order and also attend a couple of Sydney markets each month. **I can be contacted on (02) 9477 6596 for orders or information.**

"THE CATS THAT NEED THE CATTERY" FUND RAISING APPEAL

Our thanks to these members and friends for their generosity

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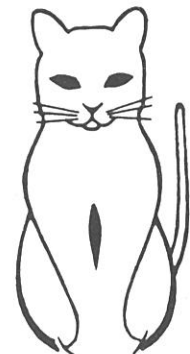
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Sleeping the sleep of the innocent



Cat beds - some of the best



It is always a pleasure to feature Australian artists and Australian products in Cat Affairs. This gives CPS a chance to give exposure to local talent and enterprise and, in a small way, help promote our country. A fine example of home grown expertise is the Melbourne firm, **SNOOZA**, which is doing everything but falling asleep on

the job by designing and producing a fine range of cat and dog beds for a growing market in Australia and overseas.

The Snooza range of products is made in Australia and the firm uses as much Australian raw materials as possible. They maintain a high standard of quality in the production of their products as well as promoting a strong ethical business approach. Snooza's goals are serving customers with integrity, developing quality products, creating a good working environment for staff, acting responsibly to the community and the environment and operating ethically in business.

Snooza maintains a strong quality control and also offers a 'no quibble' guarantee on their products. When it comes to their industrial 'waste' they recycle as much as they can and donate useful by-products to local schools. As well, they try to use as much recycled material as possible so they are being very environmentally aware from both ends of the production line.

"We will always believe it's better to choose good quality and permanence once rather than poor quality and disposability several times".

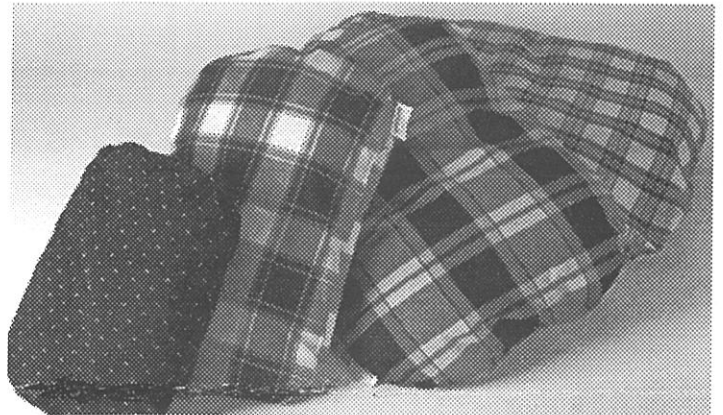
Snooza believes in supporting the community and they annually donate a percentage of their sales to an allied cause. The 1999 recipient that has been chosen is the National Pet Register.

Now that winter is coming soon – here are some of the products that Snooza produces for cats. Dog versions of suitable items are also available and those of you who are interested in upgrading your pet's bedding are advised to check your local pet stores for the

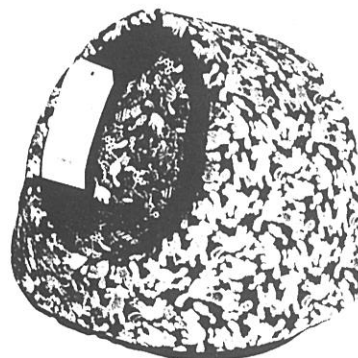
Snooza Range. Snooza also exhibits all their products at the annual Sydney Pet Expos – which is a good time to have a chat with the Snooza staff who actually design and create these items.

The **SNOOZA PET RUG** is available in 2 sizes, will not absorb odours and is stain resistant. It is completely washable and since it is made from Olefin®, a revolutionary new lightweight fabric, it dries in minutes, making the Pet Rug perfect as a throw for couch, car or basket.

The **SNOOZA PET CUSHION** is made of Dacron® Comforel® which has unique conforming capabilities providing incomparable comfort for your pet. Encased in a removable inner liner, this superb quality filling has a luxurious down-like feel, is mite-resistant and non-allergenic. The cushion cover is made from a heavy weight fabric which is long lasting, easy to wash and fleas hate it. The Snooza Pet Cushion comes in 4 sizes which will suit a single cat up to the largest dog. The oval shape conforms to an animal's sleeping pattern and it is completely machine washable with replacement covers available.



For a secure feeling and to keep out drafts, the **SNOOZA CAT IGLOO** or the **SNOOZA PET CUBBIE** are ideal. The igloo provides a warm and cosy home for your cat or kitten. It is available in a range of fabrics and comes with a covered, reversible mat. The Cubbie is shaped like a kennel and this miniature covered foam house is suitable for one or two cats or a small dog.





washable and flea free.

Even our pets can be trendy and ultra comfortable and so Snooza presents their **PET FUTON**. Filled with 100% Australian wool, the futon has a removable, washable, calico cover. It is warm in winter and cool in summer and it even

stays warm when it is wet. Your pet will have the luxury of Australian wool and you will be helping our sheep graziers too! The Pet Futon comes in 3 sizes; 'Mini' for cats and small dogs, 'Original' for medium size dogs and 'Mighty' for large dogs. As the wool has been treated with a bio-degradable and environmentally friendly detergent, fleas are also kept well and truly at bay.



And when your cat awakes from a restful slumber, Snooza offers a special play space with the **SNOOZA KRINKLY KAT SACK**.

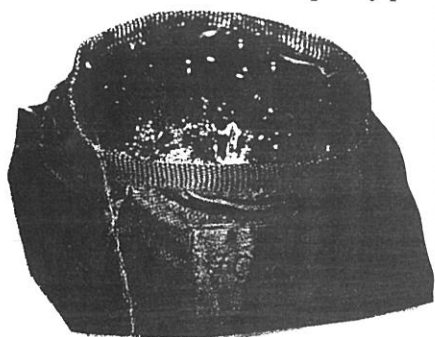
It is a fully washable version of every cat's favourite toy, the paper bag! A simple ingenious design allows a crinkly plastic insert to be covered with a calico liner, keeping the cat amused for hours with a gentle rustle of sound every time the cat moves. One end



stays open permanently with bowing allowing easy access. Mice illustrations all over the bag makes it a cute toy. And when your cat is tired of play ... back to its Snooza bed for 40 winks.

Another Snooza product, which is really more suitable for dogs, offers a great concept and owner ease -- the **SNOOZA WATER WALLET**. It is a completely portable water and dry food bowl

made of durable nylon and it easily folds down into a small pouch for storing. It fits in your pocket, knapsack or glove box and you always have a handy container for food and water for your pet when you are away from home.



with winter's chill just around the corner, investigate the advantages of specially designed and produced bedding made with your pet's comfort and your convenience in mind.

snooza

LITTLE BOY

Little Boy, 3 months after being hit by a car and wearing his summer 'short back and sides'. Little Boy's story is on page 4, column 3.



ONE NIGHT ©

Kathleen Fernandes

Moonlit night
warm breeze
she sits satisfied
silent
watchful
eyes luminous
I stoop
gently fondle her
she purrs
I smile.

Sudden noise
she starts
head turns
purr stops
breeze
now gusty
cools
she flees
I shiver
cloud
steals across
the moon.

THE CAT AND THE CREATION

A number of Creation myths have dropped on my desk over the last couple of years and now is the time for a full assault on the various ways the Cat has been coupled with Creation. Enjoy.

A Godly Feature...

On late Saturday evening of the Creation, the Almighty looked at his work, and put his feet up. He was looking forward to his first day of rest. The first Sunday in history was about to come. The Almighty was content. But suddenly he heard a strange noise at the door so he got up to check. It was the cat.

'Great Lord', said the cat and rubbed herself against the Almighty's legs, "Your creation is magnificent, and I, too, am content. You gave me beautiful fur to protect me from the cold. You gave me wonderful soft paws, so that I can sneak up silently on my prey, and you gave me sharp claws and a flexible body, which make me a good hunter and climber. But just the same, I have to admit that there is a tiny bit still missing."

The Lord creased his brow and thought back - what could he have forgotten. It could not be the Cat Flap; this invention was planned for much later. The same applied to the Kitty-litter, domestication had to precede that. "Speak up", requested the Almighty, "what is it that is still missing?"

Only a very minor detail, Lord, "spoke the cat, and, with excitement, wiped her paw over her whiskers. "And it is not meant as a criticism"

"Come out with it," demanded the Lord, somewhat annoyed because he saw his Sunday rest in some danger, "what is it?"

"Well", said the cat, wrapping her tail around her paws, "I have not enough defence powers! My claws and teeth are magnificent weapons against mice and other rodents, and with my jumping power I can chase off birds, but I have no defence against Man!"

Restlessly the Almighty looked at this watch and the cat used this break to continue, "You gave the lion very large teeth and frightening paws, the snake can defend itself with poison, even the hedgehog can keep Man away with his spikes. Only I, Lord, am without defences and am therefore somewhat unhappy."

"What did you have in mind? Asked the Almighty, "Would you like wings like a bird or would you rather crawl into the earth like a worm?"

or rhino."

"As you wish," said the Lord, and gave the cat two mighty tusks of the best ivory. Immediately she lost her balance and fell forward, unable to move.

"I don't think tusks are a good idea after all," complained the cat, now more unhappy. "If only they were not so large - maybe a pointed beak would be better."

Again the Lord fulfilled her wish and replaced her pretty little nose with a hefty, dagger-like beak. But the cat was again dissatisfied.

"I think a beak is not the right thing either," she said, and pecked awkwardly on the ground. "How can I clean my fur with this? Maybe a heavy body armour would be better." And again the Lord granted her wish and again she was dissatisfied. So she wished for something else and each time the Lord granted it she became more and more saddened.

Meanwhile, it was already one minute before midnight, the 7th day, on which Creation was to be completed. The time for the Almighty to rest was almost at hand. So the Lord looked down on the poor cat and said, "To be safe from Man you do not need tusks, beak or body armour. Because I now give you a weapon more powerful than any big paw or poison. Man will lay down in awe before your feet - I give you *purring!*"

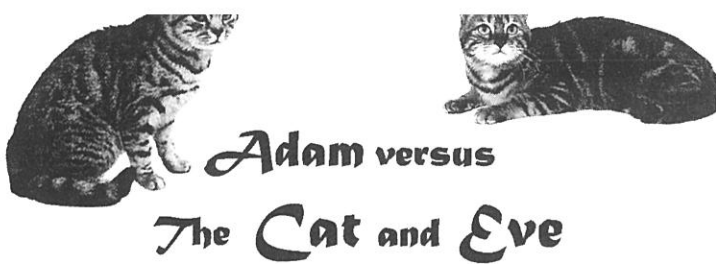
At this very moment the clock struck midnight, accompanied by a comforting sound coming out of the throat of an overjoyed cat. And the Lord saw that it was good, so he took the purring bunch of fur onto his lap and said, "I have worked hard for six days and now need some relaxation. So I will spend my first Sunday together with you!"

Spoke He thus and then rolled over with the cat for a sleep on the lounge.

Thanks to Helmut Fetzer

The Ten Cat-mandments

1. *I am the Lord of thy house.*
2. *Thou shalt have no other pets before me.*
3. *Thou shalt not ever ignore me*
4. *I shall ignore thou whenever I feel like it.*
5. *Thou shalt be grateful that I even give thou the time of day.*
6. *Remember my food dish and keep it full.*
7. *Thou shalt spend most of thy money on toys and gifts for me.*
8. *Thou shalt always have thy lap ready for me to curl up in.*
9. *Thou shalt forever shower me with love and affection upon demand.*
10. *Above all, thou shalt do anything it takes to keep me happy.*



Adam versus The Cat and Eve

In the spring of 1963, archaeologist Melvin J Fritz, known by his peers as Missouri Melvin, entered a cave near the Dead Sea. It was an exciting moment. Amid the dust of antiquity, and suffering the unbearable heat, Missouri Melvin overturned a great pile of rocks. He soon unearthed an ancient jar containing a yellowed papyrus manuscript. It was entitled THE SECOND BOOK OF TABBY, and its contents confirmed all of Melvin's suspicions about cats. Its first tale read:

Verily the newly created Adam awoke and gazed into the hypnotic amber eyes of a large, grey, furry creature that, taking scant notice of Adam, continued to wash its soft paws.

"What manner of creature be you?," Adam asked. He had, after all, been given dominion over all creatures.

"A cat", replied the animal, with a tone of disdain.

Adam stared at the cat and within him a new desire arose. He wanted to stroke the creature. Thus, after a moment, he reached up to touch the soft fur that beckoned him. "I have dominion over all creatures", Adam mumbled.

But the cat lifted its paw and the soft pads turned into a vicious weapon and the cat struck, though not as hard as he might have. "Dominion is one thing", the cat hissed, "Touchy-feely is another". With those words, the cat lifted its noble head in the air. "I have not decided to accept you", the cat announced.

Adam looked at the lovely creature and wept. He, like most humans, desired the cat's friendship simply because it was denied. The cat was unmoved by Adam's brief, but all too-human outburst. "Feed me or else!" the cat demanded, again lifting its paw. And lo, Adam was sorely tested.

Adam wandered about the garden and made a meal for the cat. The cat sniffed it and circled it. Finally, the cat ate a portion of what was offered. Cats are not known for gratitude, but after a time the cat rubbed up against Adam and allowed Adam to stroke him momentarily. "You are not a good cook," the cat said, chastising Adam.

Adam was repentant. "Why", asked the cat, "don't you ask your Maker for a woman to help look after me?"

"A woman?" Adam asked. "What's a woman?" But the cat was gone, having left for a short stroll in the garden.

Adam, not quite understanding, asked his Maker for a woman. And lo, when Adam awoke, with a pain in his side, he found beside him a woman whom he called Eve.

When the cat returned, Adam instructed Eve: "Feed the cat".

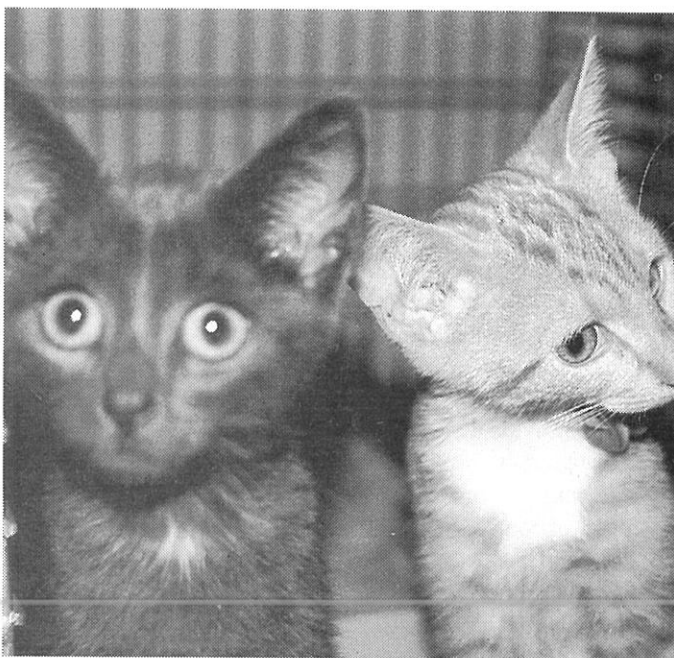
By your name, Eve murmured as she stroked the cat, please call me Madam. And do not expect me to do things for you".

And lo, Adam was again sorely tested. For now he found himself desiring both the woman and the cat. Indeed, he found himself providing for both of them in exchange for very slight petting privileges.

And finally ... to end this irreligious note ...

The Real Creation Story

On the first day of creation, God created the cat.
 On the second day, God created man to serve the cat.
 On the third, God created all the animals of the earth to serve as potential food for the cat.
 On the fourth day, God created honest toil so that man could labor for the good of the cat.
 On the fifth day, God created the sparkle ball so that the cat might or might not play with it.
 On the sixth day, God created veterinary science to keep the cat healthy and the man broke.
 On the seventh day, God tried to rest, but he had to scoop the litterbox.



Cats are to dogs what modern people are to the people we used to have. Cats are slimmer, cleaner, more attractive, disloyal, and lazy ... Cats are irresponsible and recognize no authority, yet are completely dependent on others for their material needs. Cats cannot be made to do anything useful. Cats are mean for the fun of it. In fact, cats possess so many of the same qualities as some people (expensive girl friends, for instance) that it's often hard to tell the people and the cats apart."

P.J. O'Rourke

I wish you could see the two cats drowsing side by side.. their paws, their ears, their tails complementally adjusted, their blue eyes blinking open on a single thought of when I shall remember it's their supptime. They might have been composed by Bach for two flutes.

Sylvia Townsend Warner

June Chapman

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

When Mrs June Chapman resigned as a CPS Councillor, we recalled her years of service that she gave to the CPS. June's name appears constantly in our earliest minute books as a welfare officer. She was a councillor for 9 years, served on the Animal Welfare Advisory Council to the Dept of Agriculture; with her friends, Lena Larsen and Nance Iredale, she ran the CPS office for several years and June still works regularly at the Opportunity Shop.

But June's involvement with the stray cats at Concord Repatriation Hospital is even more impressive. There were literally hundreds of breeding cats which June fed daily. The hospital covers a huge area and June buzzed around every mid day in her Mini Minor, dropping off food. This was collected from the creche and the hospital kitchen to add to the food she purchased herself. Surely a labour of love - hard labour!

Finally June discovered a local cat welfare organisation which - with her assistance - and over many, many months - reduced the number to 25 desexed cats attached to various wards. June was the Red Cross librarian at the hospital and I well remember 'Baby' always on duty at the library, supervising procedures.

When the cats were no longer a nuisance, hospital staff ran raffles to pay for their support. Gardeners asked for more cats to keep the water rats down (we ignored this) and the hospital became a cat heaven instead of a cat hell. At one stage, after CPS took over the few odd jobs that cropped up, we were asked to provide a very ugly cat because as soon as new cats were desexed - they disappeared - a cheap cat for the hundreds of staff and visitors. We ignored the request for an ugly cat because, of course, CPS doesn't think such a creature exists!

June still had her dinner run to do but 25 cats compared to hundreds was a cinch. She sometimes had hints from wards that 'their' cat was having to wait too long for its lunch. June has been retired from the Red Cross for some years but her nursing friends at the hospital keep her informed and no little cat appears there that isn't quickly dealt with - mostly by desexing and adoption.

So you can see why CPS has bestowed its highest honour on June Chapman - Honorary Life Member, an honour richly deserved with all her years of dedicated service to the welfare of cats. June lives with Mouse, Jaws and Willie and she is visited nightly by 'The Old Boy' and is known to all the neighbourhood cats. Would that there were more June Chapman's in this world to champion and work for the betterment of our feline friends.

RAFFLE RESULTS

Thank you, thank everyone, who contributed to the success of our fundraising raffle. Around \$2,000 was raised - which is a fantastic amount to go towards our Cattery Appeal. Thanks go especially to our donors; Annette Quinn, who generously donated the first prize weekend away at Catersfield House; Barman Cellars in the Strathfield Plaza for the super dozen bottles of wine; Flat Cats for the bottomless gift basket and Pets and Vets magazine for the 3 yearly subscriptions. A thousand thanks to you all!!!

The Prize Winners:

1 st	Danielle Field	Weekend at Catersfield House
2 nd	Kerry Young	\$200 cash voucher
3 rd	Jennie Meixner	One dozen bottles wine
4 th	Carol Adams-Connelly	Flat Cats Gift Basket
5 th	Shirley Lindley	Pets & Vets subscription
6 th	Tony Griffiths	Pets & Vets subscription
7 th	Marcia Norris	Pets & Vets subscription

Congratulations to our lucky winners and thank you again for your support in helping us raise funds to help more cats and kittens.



Raffle Organiser, Sue Matysek (CPS) and 3rd prize winner, Jennie Meixner accepting her dozen wines.

MEMBERS SURVEY PRIZE

Barbara Kains was the winner of a Microchip by returning her completed member's survey by the closing date. We had a great response to our survey, the results are in this issue.

PURR T-SHIRT CLEARANCE SALE

\$20 now \$15 each post paid

2 for \$27.00 post paid

Blue / Grey / White Sizes S / M / L / XL

Send your name / address / PHONE NUMBER

sizes/colours plus cheque or money order to

CPS, 103 Enmore Rd, ENMORE NSW 2042

allow 1 week delivery

don't forget phone # in case size/colour is sold out

DONATION FORM

The Membership Secretary, The Cat Protection Society of NSW,
103 Enmore Road, ENMORE NSW 2042 Ph (02) 9557-1011, 9519-7201

I/We would like to make a donation to the Society. Enclosed is a cheque/money order/ for
DONATION \$.....

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms
Surname (Block letters) Initials

Address Suburb Post Code.....

FORM OF BEQUEST

To persons who wish to assist our Society, the following forms of bequest are suggested:

Where a specific amount of money or a specific asset is to be bequeathed the form would be:

I (insert full name and address) give and bequeath to the Cat Protection Society of NSW, the registered office of which is 103 Enmore Road, Enmore, NSW 2042, the sum ofdollars (or a complete description of the asset).

I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer for the time being of the said The Cat Protection Society of NSW shall be sufficient discharge for the legacy which is to be applied to the general purposes of the said charity.

Where a bequest involves the residue of an estate, the wording would be:

I, (insert full name and address) give and bequeath all the rest and residue of my estate of whatsoever kind and wheresoever situate to The Cat Protection Society of NSW, the registered office of which is 103 Enmore Road, Enmore, NSW 2042. And I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer for the time being of the said The Cat Protection Society of NSW shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors.

~~For further information on leaving a bequest to the Society please contact the Secretary on (02) 9557 1011.~~

THANKS, MICROCHIP

Myrika bought her ticket to heaven on Wednesday night. From the age of agility it was impossible to keep her in the 90% secure backyard and I mentally wrote her off when she took to the wider world of street and park. It is an established statistic that cats on the street live 2-5 years. Each time she came home was a bonus and I never scolded her for her outings, only appreciated the times she was here. I am so grateful now that on what was to be her last morning at home, I passed her by, asleep on the chair, retraced my steps and went back to pet and fondle her. A fitting farewell.

Myrika was killed by a car. Some kind soul, either the driver or a walker, took her body to the local vet. It happened to be my vet surgery - but my vet surgery is 12 minutes drive from home. I know Myrika didn't get in that area on her own, nor would I have ever thought to put 'lost cat' notices in mail boxes so far away.

My vet phoned me to advise me of her death. He did not recognise her but a microchip scan quickly identified her. I have grieved far more for other felines losses, maybe I never bonded fully with her because of her inclination to stray. But I am greatly relieved to know what happened to her, that she was killed instantaneously, and most especially that someone was kind enough to my beautiful Tonkinese to take her to a vet, just in case. Without a microchip I would never know any of that. I will not have to worry and wonder where she is and how she is. For that peace of mind, the microchip more than paid for the cost. I recommend that everyone has all of their animals microchipped.

Lee Wright

ODE TO RIKA®

Judeth Materna

Pixie cat, Cappuccino Dancer
You writhed your way into my heart,
Independent, freedom loving gypsy,
Did you know the sleepless nights
I suffered waiting for you?
Monkey Sprite of house and garden,
Nothing was unscalable, including the
walls around my emotions.
Houdini of my tears and padlocks,
Gentle key of my locked away love.
When you would disappear I'd harden my heart,
Then you would reappear, with a squeak
and a wriggle announcing your return,
And the roller coaster of love, amusement,
despair and fury would start again.
The 747 purr and elfin faced innocence,
The body language of love and
captivating charm.
Tonkinese delight no more.

This ode was written by my good friend and preferred 'cat sitter' who house & cat sat for 8 days last year and quickly fell under Rika's spell..

MEMBERSHIP FORM

The Cat Protection Society, 103 Enmore Road, Enmore NSW 2042. Ph 02 9557-1011

I/We apply for membership or renewal of membership of the Society for the year commencing June 1999.
All persons joining from January 2000 remain financial until June 2001.

Subscription	\$1000.00	Life Governor	Pensioner Membership	\$10.00 ✓
	\$ 250.00	Life Membership	Junior Membership	\$5.00
	\$ 15.00	Annual Membership	(state birthday)	

Enclosed find cheque/money order for membership \$ + Donation TOTALS.....
Please cross cheques and make payable to THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY of NSW

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss SURNAME _____ Initial _____
 Address: _____ Suburb: _____ Postcode _____
 Pension Number: _____ Signature: _____ Date _____
 Please include a stamped, self addressed envelope if you require a receipt.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

If you have changed your address since becoming a member please fill in this section.

Surname(block letters please) Initials
 New Address Postcode
 Previous Address Postcode



NEW MEMBERS

October 1998 - January 1999

R Allen, Glenmore Park; Mrs G Blairstowe, Watsons Bay; Miss PM Bowden, Calwell ACT; Mr D Buching, Wollstonecroft; Miss F Davin, Panania; Miss K Douglass, Concord West; Mr T Gleeson, Mt Druitt; Miss S Hobson, Macgregor ACT; Miss I Krammer, Bossley Park; Mr S Lloyd-Coombs, Newtown; N Powell, Smithfield West; Mr P.N.G.A., Sydney; Mrs H Shave, North Rocks; Simone/Defiance, Enmore;



TRAPPED

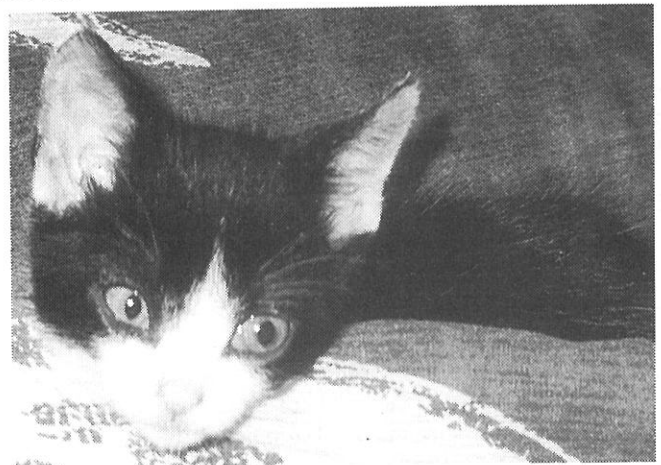
Bettina Cummins ©

Why am I always trapped
on the wrong side of the screen door?
Like now - outside on the porch
while she feeds that baby in the kitchen.
He can scream and scream but
if I meow and scratch the door, she says
"Sheba, remember, you're a lady."
That yellow tom down the street
clawed right through his wire door.
He boasts he'll do it again.
Lucky for them I'm a lady.



A cat pours his body on the floor like water. William L Phelps

The smallest feline is a masterpiece. Leonardo



Mitzi was about 4 weeks old when she came to us. The Windsor owner, advised by CPS to take her unwanted kittens to Concord Animal Hospital for surrender, arrived on an extremely hot day with a taped up box containing four 8 week old kits, and four 4 week old kits, all half dead from the suffocating heat in the box.

She was slated for euthanasia because of the severe overcrowding at that time but she kept up a steady eye contact with the vet and won a reprieve. She is being nurtured until she is old enough to be desexed and adopted. We have an older cat who 'uncles' the very young kits, teaching them manners and the ways of a house cat, eating, litter, cleanliness. He shepherds the babies around like a sheepdog and helps look after them until they are self sufficient. We are hoping for a very good home for Mitzi.

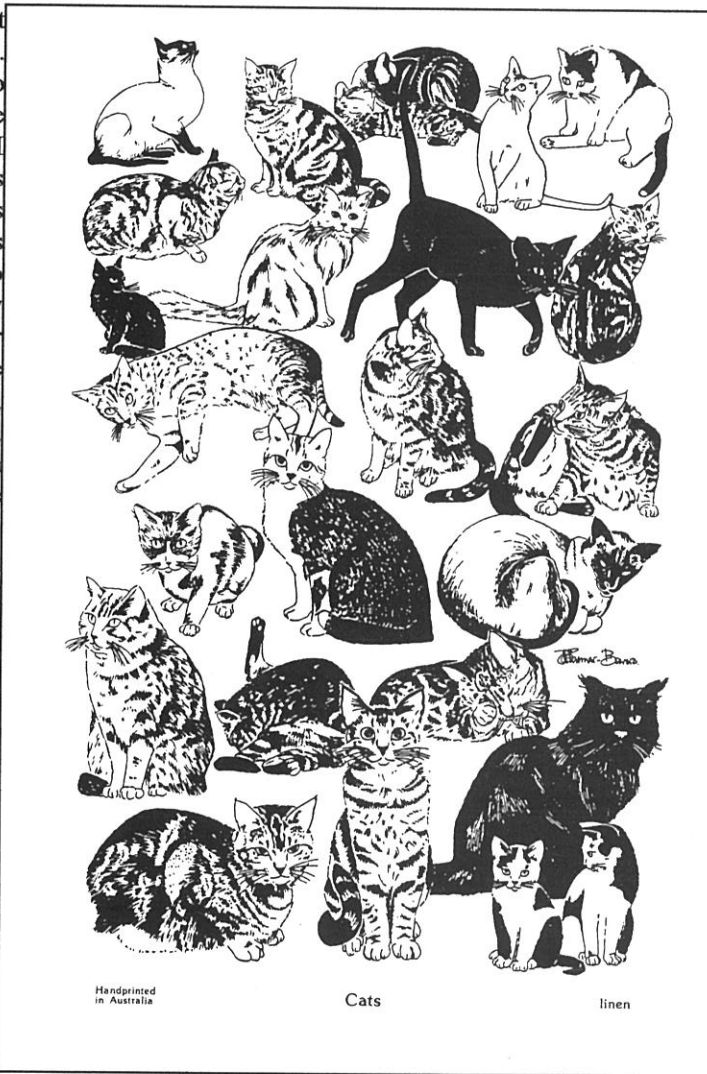
Screen prints yield great feline fun

JOSS FARMAR-BOWERS Feature artist

When you see cat prints do you ever wonder how the artist came by the inspiration well read on.

I live with the three cats at the bottom of the tea towel. In the centre is Fierce, who isn't fierce and is quite young in the photograph I used for the drawing. It is the only time she appears on the tea towel as it is impossible to take a photo of her now. She very quickly ends up with her nose pressed against the camera. She is restless, very friendly, fairly vocal, especially at 5:30 am which she considers a reasonable time to be let outside.

The tabby on the left is her sister, Friendly, who isn't friendly to anyone but the family and who has perfected the feline scowl. She is solidly built, silent, sedentary and has everyone under control in her quiet way. She appears many times on the tea towel and on the Ironing Board Cover fabric as she pays no attention to the camera and is easy to photograph.



Handprinted
in Australia

Cats

linen

Fierce and Friendly came from the Lort Smith Animal Hospital several years ago. We brought two kittens home as Bandit, the Siamese I had for many years, was growing old. Although he was the most welcoming cat, it might have been asking too much of even his patience to cope with a lone kitten. He had an incredibly loud purr but was otherwise quiet - the only time he howled was on cold mornings when he would stand in front of the heater complaining, until someone turned it on. He loved cats, people and dogs with a rare generosity of spirit.

The cat on the right turned up last year in our backyard, starving and very wary of people. She was small, mid brown in colour, kept low to the ground and became known as Low Brown. She is now

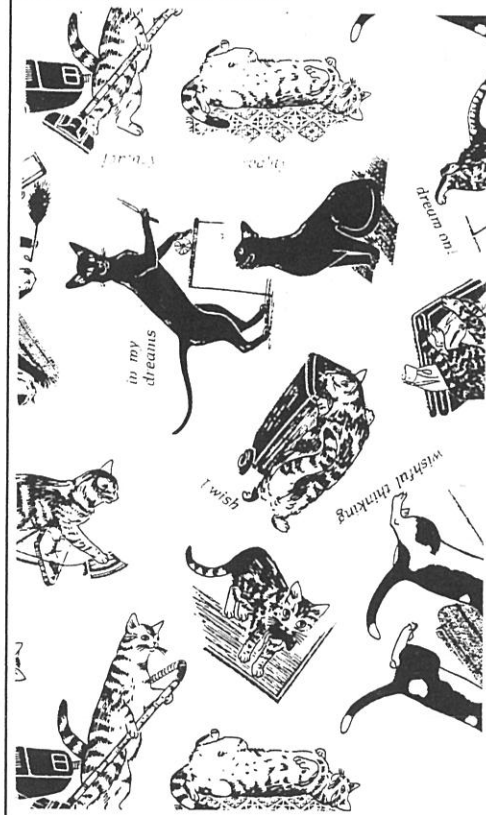
sociable, well fed and almost black with a plume of a tail - another misnamed cat! She has ambitions regarding the position at the top of the pecking order but so far this involves pouncing on the tabbies when they aren't expecting it and being cuffed for her temerity. Some of the other cats on the tea towel belong to friends who were adopted by the cats who arrived at their homes in various ways.

The tea towels come in either black, chocolate or ginger on cream linen and cost \$11 each.

The Ironing Board Covers have a fantasy/reality print on them with 'fantasy' cats doing the household chores such as ironing, taking out the rubbish and vacuuming alongside 'reality' cats who sit on the folded laundry, bring in a mouse and roll on the carpet. The cats are printed in navy with red, bright green or turquoise blue on white cotton drill. The covers fit all standard size boards up to 120 cms in

length and special covers to fit non standard boards can be made to order. All covers cost \$20 and there is a \$3 postal charge for any order within Australia.

Orders can be placed by sending your details and cheque or money order to Joss Farmar-Bower, 34 Nicholson St, South Yarra, VIC 3141.



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DUE**

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SOCIETY IS IMPROVING
OUR ABILITY TO HELP
MORE CATS BY
PURCHASING ANOTHER
CAT VAN.**

**YOUR MEMBERSHIP
DOLLARS HELP IN A VERY
ACTIVE WAY.**

